

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/013931 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61K 7/48**

(21) International Application Number:  
**PCT/EP2004/051379**

(22) International Filing Date: **7 July 2004 (07.07.2004)**

(25) Filing Language: **English**

(26) Publication Language: **English**

(30) Priority Data:  
**03405542.6** **16 July 2003 (16.07.2003)** **EP**

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): **AE, AG, AI., AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CI, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GI, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.**

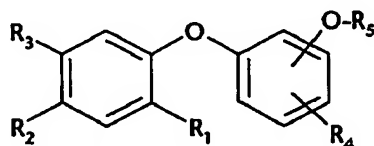
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): **ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).**

**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **USE OF HALOGENATED HYDROXYDIPHENYL ETHER COMPOUNDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF THE SKIN**



(I)

(57) Abstract: The use of hydroxydiphenyl ether compounds of formula (I), wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  are each independently of the others hydrogen; hydroxy;  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl; hydroxy-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl;  $C_5$ - $C_7$ cycloalkyl;  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkoxy;  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl; phenyl; or phenyl- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl;  $R_4$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl; hydroxy-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl;  $C_5$ - $C_7$ cycloalkyl; hydroxy; formyl; acetyl; allyl; carboxy; carboxy- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl; carboxyallyl;  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkenyl;  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl;  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkylcarbonyl- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl; phenyl; or phenyl- $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl; and  $R_5$  is hydrogen;  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkoxy; or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkylcarbonyl; as melanogenesis inhibitors and for lightening the skin.